

Beech Avenue, Effingham - Water Main Replacement Scheme

Frequently asked questions

Why are you replacing the water mains in our area?

SES Water have an obligation to provide a sustainable potable water supply. We have an annual capital programme to replace our ageing water mains, some of which are over 100 years old. Our replacement programme is determined when we have identified potential issues with pressure, quality and supply interruptions. Replacing mains improves our long term ability to provide the service customers require at both domestic and business properties, by replacing the ageing water mains in advance of any major issues. Your area has been identified as benefitting from the water mains being replaced.

How much more mains replacement do you need to do in this area of Beech Avenue and adjacent roads?

We have already replaced 3,250m of main in your area and have the length from the entrance to St Teresa's School, along Beech Avenue, to the junction with High Barn Road still to do. We then have some small connection works in High Barn Road, adjacent to our reservoir boundary, and near the junction with Beech Close.

Will you need to close Beech Avenue again like the previous phases of the project?

Unfortunately, due to the width of the carriageway and the presence of other high risk utilities, Beech Avenue will need to be closed to allow our workforce to work safely and efficiently. A signed diversion route will be in place, however access will be maintained for residents and emergency services. For more information on the approved diversion route please see the main project page on our website.

When are you doing these last sections of work?

We will be replacing the water mains and services in Beech Avenue during the school holidays, at Easter and again in the Summer. The minor works in High Barn Road and the junction with Beech Close will be completed once all the water main is in place and the services transferred to the new water main. We will make every effort to complete all these works in the School holidays at Easter and in the Summer.

What dates specifically will you be closing Beech Avenue?

Easter Period: 30/03/2019 – 21/04/2019 inclusive

Summer Period: 07/07/2019 – 01/09/2019 inclusive

Will you be working 7 days a week and extended hours?

Yes and yes. We have learnt from the previous phases of the project and the only way we are going to complete this scheme within the given timescales is to work 7 days a week and extended hours. That said, we do need to be mindful of the wellbeing of our workforces, so we will not be adopting 24hr working.

Why are you only doing these works in School Holidays?

With over 85% of traffic using this section of Beech Avenue attributed to the School, the impact of our work will be reduced by working in the school holiday periods. This will also prevent excessive vehicle movements being transferred to High Barn Road and is therefore far safer for everyone.

Will customers living in and using Beech Avenue, High Barn Road and Beech Close be affected by the remaining works?

The water mains replacement work planned is intrusive to some extent or other. Everyone will be affected in some way but we are working hard to ensure we understand all the issues and concerns associated with our works and will be making every effort to work with the community to overcome as many issues as we can. However, we will need to close this section of road during the mainlaying work, for the safety of our workforce and road users.

How will local residents be affected?

In the Easter Holidays, we will install the new water main from the entrance of St Teresa's School to as far as the first property (East Court). This section of Beech Avenue will be completely closed to enable us to have more resources on site and increase our productivity. If we have time during the Easter break, we will continue further along Beech Avenue ensuring we manage access to each property we approach.

During the Easter period residents living in Beech Avenue, Beech Close and High Barn Road will have to access their properties by using the Guildford Road or High Barn Road entrances. Through traffic, during the Easter period, will not be permitted from Ranmore Common Road entrance.

What about the impact on refuse collections, bus services and deliveries?

We have contacted the local bus companies and refuse collection contractors to inform them of the coming road closures of Beech Avenue. If you experience any issues with either of these services, please contact Surrey County Council. With regards to personal deliveries, we ask that you make the relevant company aware that a signed diversion route will be in place during the Easter and summer holidays.

What happens when the team are passing properties in Beech Avenue?

When the team are laying the new water main past the properties in Beech Avenue, the work will be done in short sections, mostly during the summer school holiday period. The short sections enable the team to reinstate as they progress and to use road plates across any access drive which will ensure access is maintained at all times. There will be short periods when excavations will be open across a drive, however the site team will work closely with each property to ensure we keep any impact to an absolute minimum.

Will you do the service transfers in Beech Avenue at the same time as the Mainlaying?

No. We need to test the new water main for quality before any properties can be connected. We will lay the water main in full and then test it in sections, before transferring the Beech Avenue properties onto the new water main.

Will the service transfers be done in the summer holidays and will the road remain closed for these?

We will be making the transfers, along this section of Beech Avenue, to the new water main in the summer holidays, once the water main is fully installed and tested. We are hopeful that we can do this part of the works, one property transfer at a time, using traffic lights. This is because the excavations will be smaller, individual holes outside each property, which we will backfill before moving on to the next. Access to properties will be maintained during the transfers.

What work is still needed in High Barn Road and near Beech Close?

Once all the new water mains are installed and the service transferred to the new water main, we will then make our final two connections, which will link up the whole system in the area.

Will these last two connections cause traffic or access issues?

The connection in the junction of Beech Close will not impact on any traffic movements although we will have signage and barriers in place. The connection work needed in High Barn Road, adjacent to the reservoir boundary, will take up to one week. During this time, High Barn will be closed to through traffic at this location. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout. More information on these minor works will be posted on our website closer to the time.